

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

--A graphic user interface (GUI) and method for providing a computer operating environment utilizes a global drawing surface and a display-and-control graphic element on the global drawing surface. The global drawing surface is a surface on which different graphic elements, which exist on the global surface, can be created. The display-and-control graphic element has a local drawing surface on which additional graphic elements can be created. The display-and-control graphic element has a viewable area that can selectively display a portion of the local drawing surface such that some of the local drawing surface is not displayed. The display-and-control graphic element is configured such that the additional graphic elements on the local drawing surface are managed by the display-and-control graphic element but exist on the global drawing surface a set of universal tools so that an intuitive computer environment. A tool in this universal tool set is a display and control graphic element that manages other graphic elements, including other display and control graphic elements. The display and control graphic elements can be used to create other graphic elements, which are displayed on the display and control graphic elements. However, these created graphic elements exist on a global drawing surface. Thus, the graphic elements can interact with any other graphic element, including graphic elements on the global drawing surface, on other display and control graphic elements and/or on the same display and control graphic element. Another tool in the universal tool set is an information display and control graphic element. These graphic elements can be used to modify the appearance or a functionality of an associated graphic element, as well as other operations.--

Please replace the paragraph [0016] on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--A graphic user interface (GUI) and method for providing a computer operating environment utilizes a global drawing surface and a display-and-control graphic element on the global drawing surface. The global drawing surface is a

surface on which different graphic elements, which exist on the global surface, can be created. The display-and-control graphic element has a local drawing surface on which additional graphic elements can be created. The display-and-control graphic element has a viewable area that can selectively display a portion of the local drawing surface such that some of the local drawing surface is not displayed. The display-and-control graphic element is configured such that the additional graphic elements on the local drawing surface are managed by the display-and-control graphic element but exist on the global drawing surface a set of universal tools so that an intuitive computer environment. A tool in this universal tool set is a display-and-control graphic element that manages other graphic elements, including other display-and-control graphic elements. The display-and-control graphic elements can be used to create other graphic elements, which are displayed on the display-and-control graphic elements. However, these created graphic elements exist on a global drawing surface. Thus, the graphic elements can interact with any other graphic element, including graphic elements on the global drawing surface, on other display-and-control graphic elements and/or on the same display-and-control graphic element. Another tool in the universal tool set is an information display and control graphic element. These graphic elements can be used to modify the appearance or a functionality of an associated graphic element, as well as other operations.--